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Copy 3 of 6

16 March 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Project Director

SUBJECT: Processing of Electronics Data

1. Procedures and policies are fairly well established for the processing and analysis of photographic take from our operations. I feel, however, that there may be a considerable void in the planning for the processing, analysis and reporting of the take from our purely electronic reconnaissance missions. Some of the questions concerning our take are comparatively easy to answer. For instance, the question as to who reproduces the tapes for transmittal to our customers is fairly well established. However, such questions as who processes the intelligence and reports the operational data obtained therefrom; who makes the technical analysis from which counter measures are planned, etc., is not so clear. Neither is it clear to me how our own Project Headquarters gets the results of our missions that are required for intelligent planning of subsequent missions.

2. Within the Intelligence community a considerable degree of confusion and conflict exist relative to responsibilities and procedures for electronic reconnaissance data reduction. The Army and Navy have in their ANKED a facility for this purpose. The Air Force has its own processing capability in their ATIC. If our Agency has its own facility I am not aware of it. Somewhat the same situation prevails regarding the interpretation and reporting of the voice recordings that will be made on all of our flights. This information being of vital tactical interest to us must be available to us on an ASAP basis. Mr. Hank Knoche is working with us in this area in an attempt to speed delivery of reaction information.

3. If you are taking separate action or know of formal procedures which have been established for the processing and reporting of both electronic and voice take, I would appreciate being so informed. If not, I would like to initiate action to insure that procedures are established whereby our Project Headquarters requirements are met. In this latter regard, I do not construe the requirements at Project Headquarters to be as all-encompassing or complete as the final analysis that would normally be of use to the entire Intelligence Community and, therefore, would not infringe on the prerogatives of any service.

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 Colonel USAF
 Director of Operations